

# Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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## A Last Word to Our Ministers

Your name and address will appear in the Annual for 1902 exactly as you find them in the Annual for the year 1901 *except where changes are ordered*. Take this year's Annual, find your name, and if the address is not correctly given write us at once upon receipt of this paper. *Do not delay*. No addresses will be changed, no names will be added, none will be dropped *unless authorized to do so*. The Annual will be ready next week. See further announcement on page 14, first column.

## The Chicago Church Dedication

In response to an earnest invitation by the pastor in charge, brother J. O. Talley, to be present and officiate at the dedication of the church recently purchased by the National Conference thru its Mission Board, we made what might be very fittingly termed a "flying trip" to the great city of the Central West. In these days of rapid transit one need not waste much time in a journey of little more than 600 miles; especially is this true when your destination is some great center of traffic, apparently a converging point of all railroads. A neat card issued by Brother Talley announced the preaching service to begin at 11 a. m., Sabbath November 24. To save time we took advantage of night railroad service, both going and coming. Unfortunately the train scheduled due in Chicago at 7:25 in the morning was 3 hours and 35 minutes late, bringing us to the city at just five minutes of eleven o'clock, several miles away from the mission. It was therefore 15 minutes after the appointed hour of worship when we reached the mission.

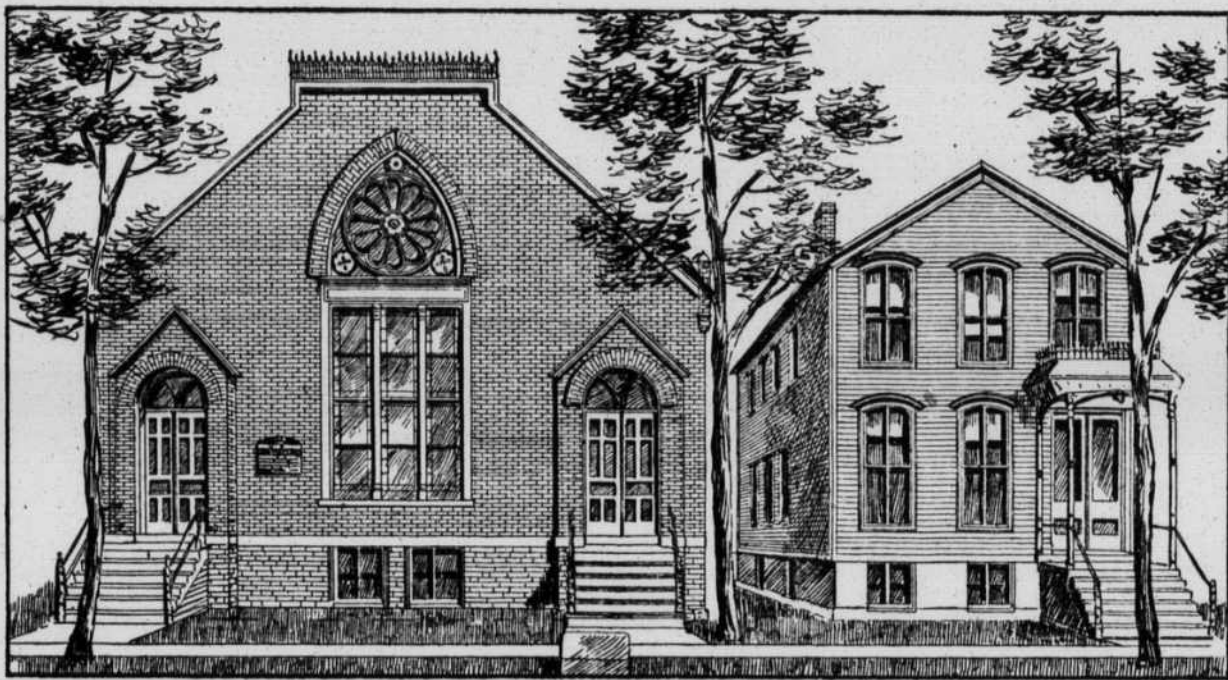
Reaching that part of the city pointed out to us as 1080 West Polk Street, we noticed, stretched across the front of a brick building, a canvas with these words in large letters on it: "This church will be open Sabbath November 24." Then followed the announcement of the several services for the day, among them the preaching service at 11 a. m., tho

it was already past that time. This we at once recognized as the Brethren Mission, and a little later found that we were correct in our conclusion. Our first impression of the mission, including the buildings, exterior and interior, was one of very agreeable surprise. Entering the church at about 11:30, Brother Talley had already held the Sunday school at least 30 minutes beyond the time of closing, and yet when the school was finally dismissed, having already been in session more than one and one-half hours, a large proportion of the children, in fact almost all of them, remained for the preaching service which lasted another hour and a half. There were present in the school that morning 103 persons, perhaps the largest number in the history of the mission. It was inspiring to hear these boys and girls sing, yes, sing not with their mouths closed as the manner

of some is, but sing as those who knew their God and who had felt the redeeming power of the Savior. The superintendent closed the school inviting all to join him in the Lord's Prayer. Softly but earnestly, and as it appeared to us the entire school without a single exception, joined in praying, "Our Father which art

in heaven," etc. As we sat there upon that platform and looked into the faces of those boys and girls, who within a few years will be young men and women, we were deeply impressed with the thought that after all there is hope for the cause of the Brethren church in the great city of Chicago. With environments far removed from anything inspiring, ennobling, or elevating; with wickedness abounding on every hand, here in a home made possible to them thru the liberality of the Brethren church, these boys and girls are learning of Jesus as a Savior and his mission into a lost and sin-cursed world, that Jesus who is at once their friend and Savior, learning to know God, the God who loves them, and learning to honor him in their lives.

A fair audience assembled for the hour of preaching and morning worship, including of course, as already stated, almost the entire school. Apparently the people gave earnest



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